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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In Application of : **RIBAK et al.**

MAY 28 2004

Technology Center 2600

Serial No.: 09/927,345

:  
: Group Art Unit: 2676

Filed : August 13, 2001

: Examiner: Tam D. Tran

For : MODIFYING HYPERLINK DISPLAY CHARACTERISTICS

Honorable Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.131**

Sir:

We, the undersigned, Amnon Ribak, Alan Wecker, Michal Jacovi and Vladimir Soroka, hereby declare as follows:

1) We are the Applicants in the patent application identified above, and are co-inventors of the subject matter described and claimed in claims 1-36 therein.

2) Prior to June 14, 2001, we reduced our invention to practice, as described and claimed in the subject application, in Israel, a WTO country. Amnon Ribak made a demonstration of a working prototype of our invention at the IBM KM 2001 conference in Zurich, Switzerland, held April 25-27, 2001. Screen shots taken from the demonstration are attached hereto as Appendix A. Appendix B contains the code (including a HTML document, and a style sheet) that was used to generate the

demonstration whose results are shown in Appendix A.

3) The screen shots in Appendix A formed the basis for Figs. 2A and 2B in the above-mentioned patent application. The description of these figures, on pages 12-14 of the patent application, is incorporated herein by reference.

4) The following table shows the correspondence between the elements of the method claims in the present patent application and elements of the material in the appendices:

Claim 1	Appendices A and B
1. A method for visualizing data, comprising:	The images in Appendix A show text data visualized in a Web browser window.
receiving code representing content to be presented to the user, the content comprising a plurality of hyperlinks to other content and at least one attribute associated with each of the hyperlinks;	The code in Appendix B contains the content presented in the images in Appendix A. The hyperlinks are indicated by "span" tags in the HTML code, each with an "id" attribute. The attributes associated with each hyperlink, such as the type and verbosity level, are defined in the style sheet.

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receiving a set of at least one user preference for displaying the hyperlinks responsive to the at least one attribute associated therewith; and	User preferences are input using the slider controls in the upper part of the browser window shown in the images in Appendix A. Each control relates to one hyperlink type, and permits the user to input his/her preference as to the verbosity of the display of hyperlinks of the given type.
displaying the content while hiding at least one of the hyperlinks responsive to the at least one user preference and to the at least one attribute associated with the at least one of the hyperlinks.	Hyperlinks are displayed in color in the images in Appendix A, while hidden hyperlinks are shown in the black default font. Comparing images 2 through 6 in Appendix A, for example, it can be seen that by moving the "Glossary" slider, the user is able to hide or reveal greater or smaller numbers of the glossary-type hyperlinks.

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Soroka

Claim 2	Appendices A and B
<p>2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one attribute comprises a verbosity characteristic, and wherein the at least one user preference specifies a desired level of verbosity, and wherein displaying the content comprises selecting the at least one of the hyperlinks to hide responsive to a comparison of the verbosity characteristic thereof and the verbosity level.</p>	<p>The verbosity characteristics of the hyperlinks are listed in the style sheet in Appendix B. The user sets the verbosity level by moving the sliders in the browser window. It can be seen in images 2 through 6 that as the user moves the Glossary slider to the right, the verbosity level increases. In each image, the hyperlinks whose verbosity characteristic is above the verbosity level for that image are hidden.</p>
Claim 3	Appendices A and B
<p>3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the verbosity level comprises a verbosity threshold, and wherein selecting the at least one of the hyperlinks comprises hiding those hyperlinks whose verbosity characteristic is above the threshold.</p>	<p>See comment regarding claim 2 above, and compare the verbosity characteristics of the hyperlinks in the style sheet to the set of hyperlinks shown in each different image.</p>

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Claim 4	Appendices A and B
4. A method according to claim 2, wherein receiving the set of at least one user preference comprises servicing an interaction by the user with an on-screen control for setting the verbosity level.	It can be seen in the images in Appendix A that the user interacts with on-screen sliders. The computer services the interaction in order to determine the verbosity level setting.
Claim 5	Appendices A and B
5. A method according to claim 2, wherein the at least one attribute comprises a classification of the hyperlink into one of a plurality of predefined categories, and wherein receiving the set of at least one user preference comprises receiving the desired level of the verbosity by category.	The classification of each of the hyperlinks by category is seen in the code in Appendix B. As shown in the images in Appendix A, verbosity can be controlled separately for four different categories of hyperlinks: Glossary, Dictionary, Intranet and Internet

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Claim 6	Appendices A and B
<p>6. A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one attribute comprises a classification of the hyperlink into one of a plurality of predefined categories, and wherein receiving the set of at least one user preference comprises receiving the user preference with regard to displaying each of the categories.</p>	<p>See comment above regarding claim 5.</p>
Claim 7	Appendices A and B
<p>7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the hyperlinks comprises two or more hyperlinks in different ones of the categories associated with a single item in the content, and wherein displaying the content comprises determining which of the two or more hyperlinks to display responsive to the user preference.</p>	<p>In images 6 and 12 in Appendix A (as well as in the code in Appendix B), it can be seen that the terms "ICM" and "HRL" have hyperlinks of both Glossary and Intranet types. Depending on the settings of the corresponding sliders in these two images, the colors of the terms in question change, to indicate whether the Glossary or Intranet hyperlink is to be displayed in each case.</p>

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Claim 8	Appendices A and B
8. A method according to claim 1, wherein the content comprises markup language code.	See the HTML code in Appendix B.
Claim 9	Appendices A and B
9. A method according to claim 8, wherein the at least one attribute is determined by a style sheet associated with the content, and wherein displaying the content comprises formatting the content for display responsive to the style sheet.	See the style sheet in Appendix B. It can be seen in the images in Appendix A that the color format of the content is determined by the tags in the style sheet.
Claim 10	Appendices A and B
10. A method according to claim 1, wherein receiving the set of at least one user preference comprises receiving an input of the preference while the content is being displayed, and wherein displaying the content comprises altering the content displayed based on the input of the preference.	In images 2-6 in Appendix A, for example, it can be seen that the slider is manipulated (to input the user preference) while the content is displayed, and that the hyperlinks in the display change from image to image according to the slider settings.

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Claim 11	Appendices A and B
11. A method according to claim 1, wherein displaying the content comprises using a Web browser program to generate the display, and wherein setting the at least one user preference comprises positioning a cursor on a screen and moving the cursor so as to interact with a user interface displayed by the browser program.	The images in Appendix A show a window created by the Microsoft® Internet Explorer browser. The cursor is represented by an arrow, which is positioned on the slider that is to be manipulated in each image and moves from image to image.
Claim 12	Appendices A and B
12. A method according to claim 11, wherein the user interface comprises slider controls.	See comment regarding claim 11, above.

5) Claims 13-36 recite apparatus and a computer software product, with limitations similar to those of method claims 1-12. Based on the similarity of subject matter between the method, apparatus and software claims, it can similarly be demonstrated that we conceived the entire invention recited in claims 13-36 prior to June 14, 2001.

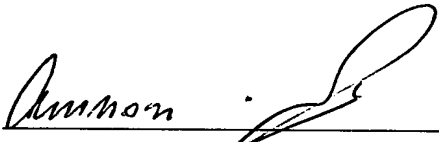
We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and conjecture are thought to be true; and further



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that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application of any patent issued thereon.

  
Amnon Ribak Citizen of  
Israel

251 Yuvalim 20142  
Israel

Date:

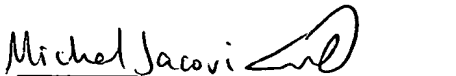
13.05.04

  
Alan Wecker, Citizen of  
Israel, United States

Moresheet  
~~Teradyon~~ 20186  
Israel

Date:

13.05.04

  
Michal Jacovi

P.O. Box 61  
Rakefet 20175, Israel

Date:

13.5.04

  
Vladimir Soroka

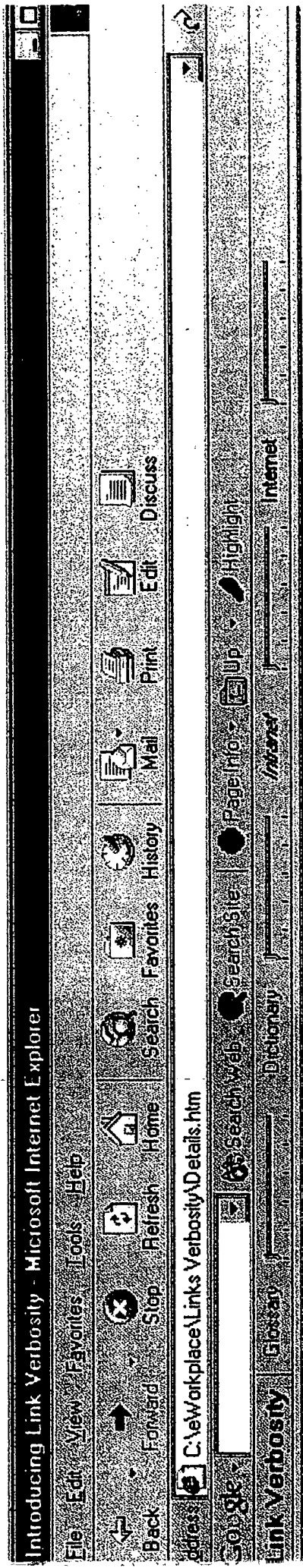
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Carmiel 21971, Israel

Date:

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## APPENDIX A



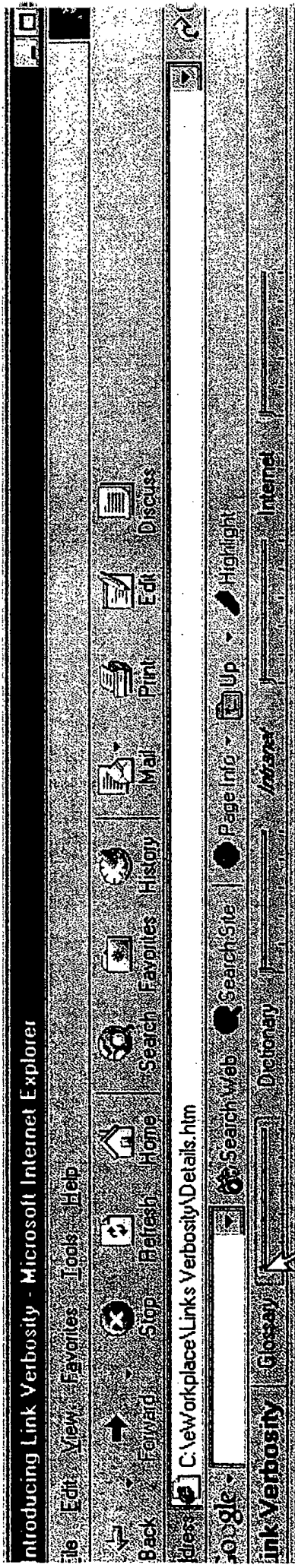
Glossaries usually provide formal, and many times proprietary, definitions to specialized terms. To particular audiences (e.g. to IBMers) some of those terms - like BluePages or IGS - are more common and better known, while others - like ICM or HRL - may be less known.

Newcomers to IBM may need to consult the IBM Glossary for all those terms; others may need to see and the link only from some of the words to the glossary.

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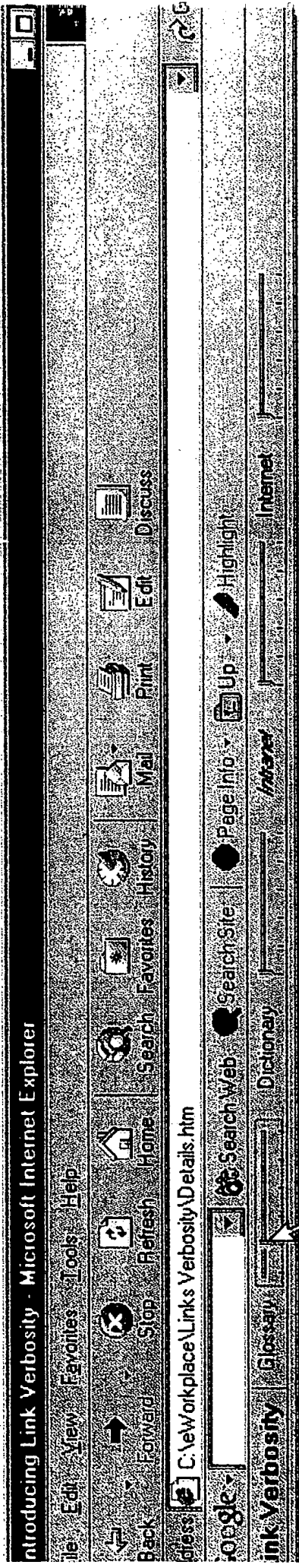
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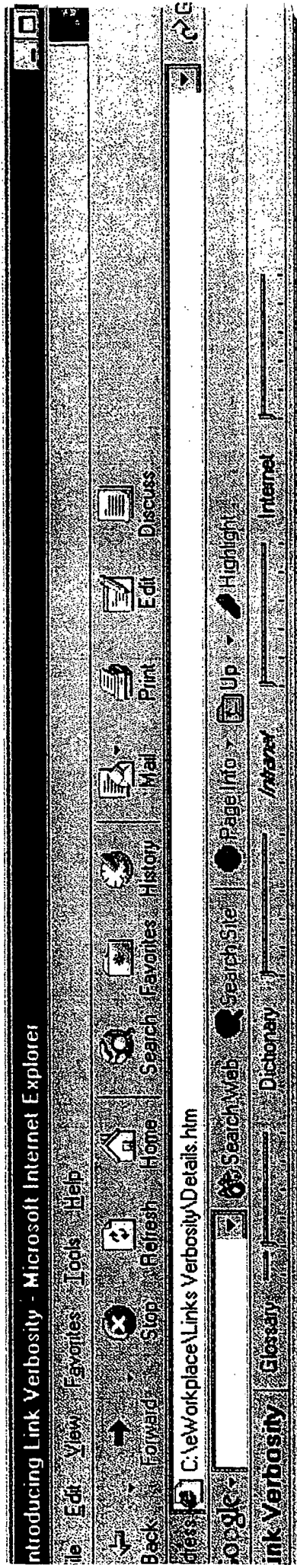
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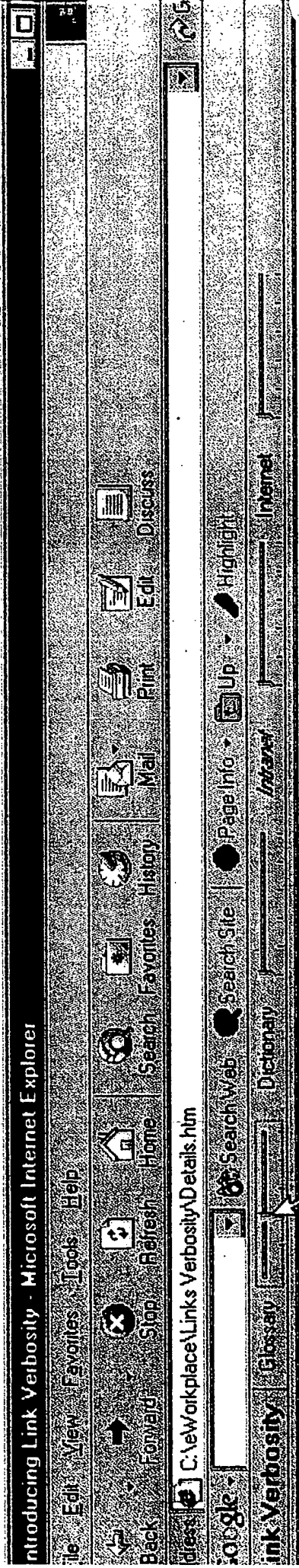


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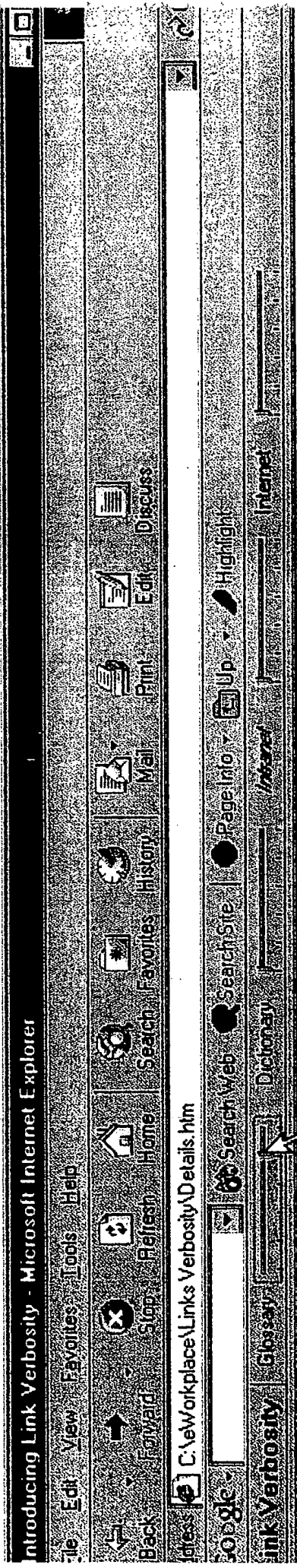
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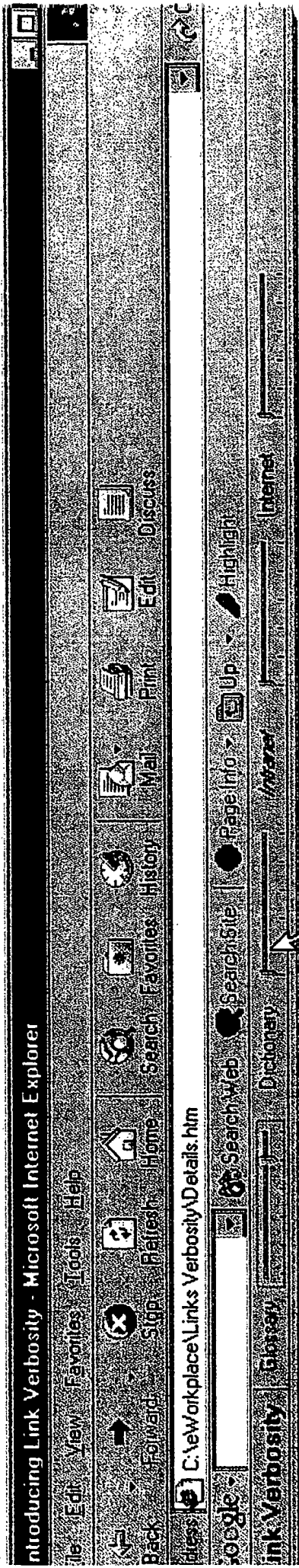
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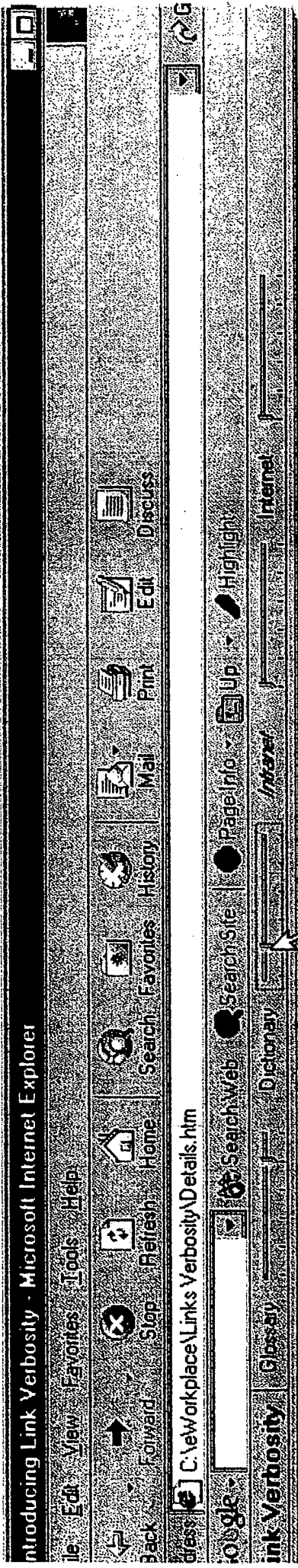
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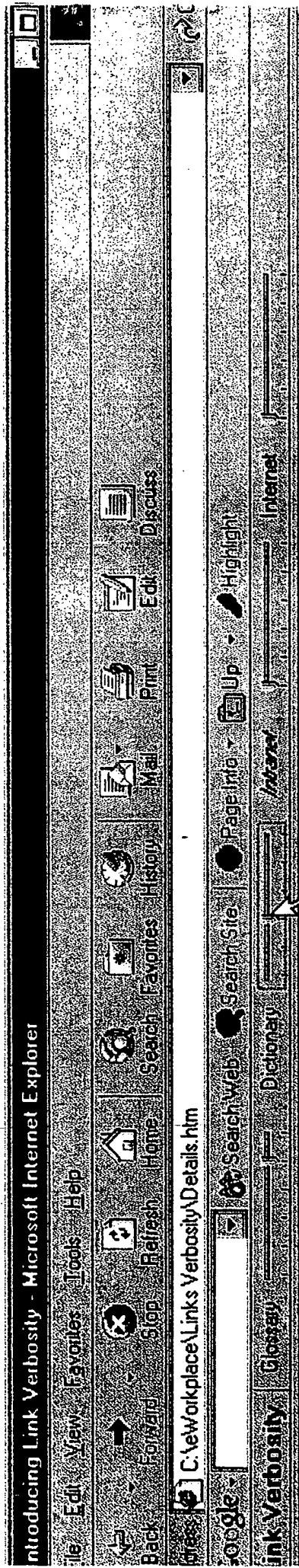
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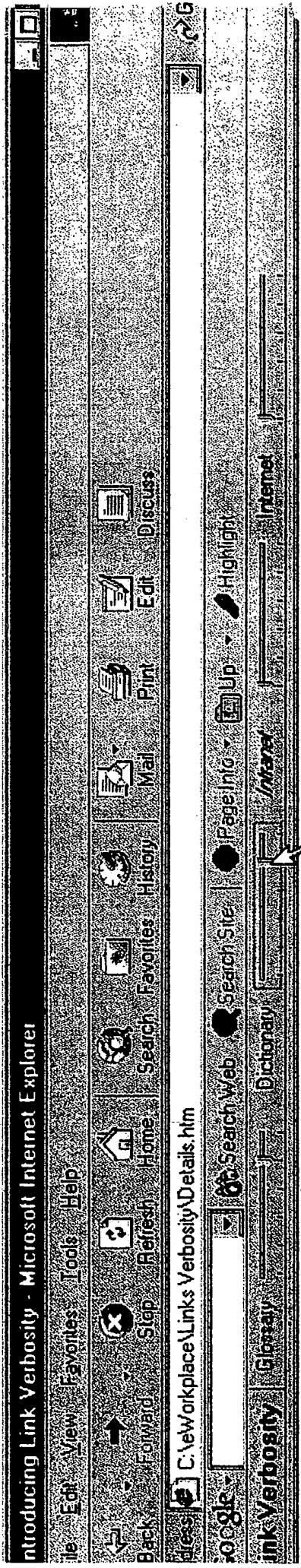


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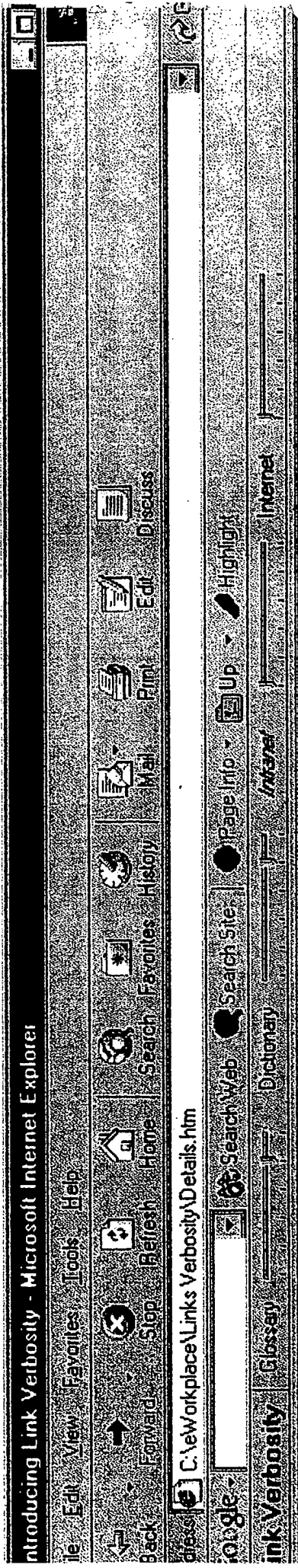


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**Glossary** - a collection of textual glosses or of specialized terms with their meanings  
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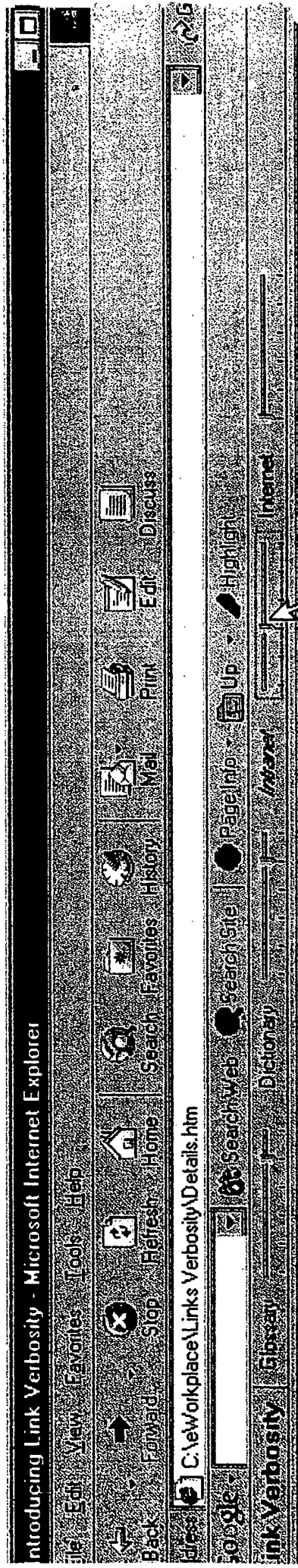
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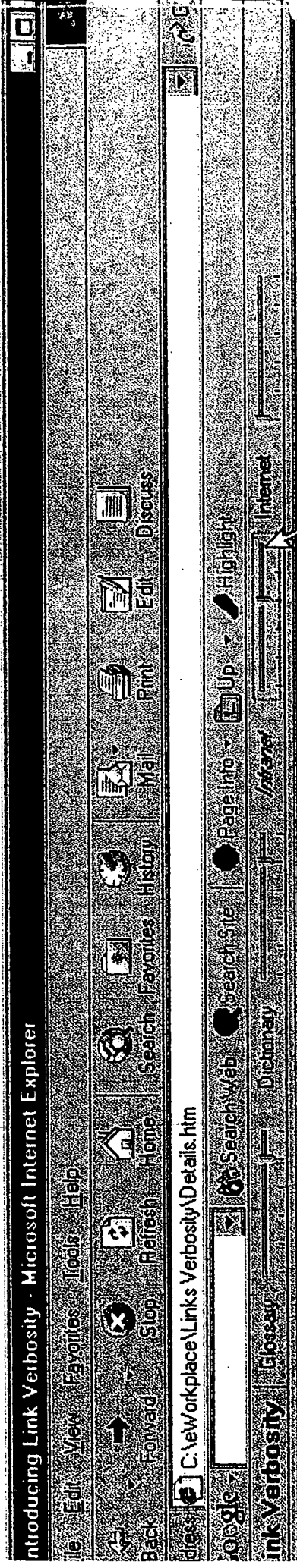


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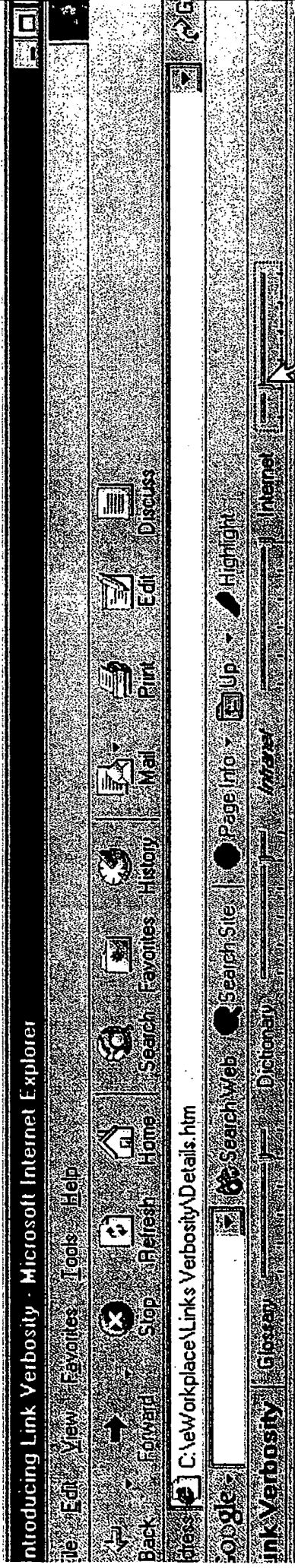
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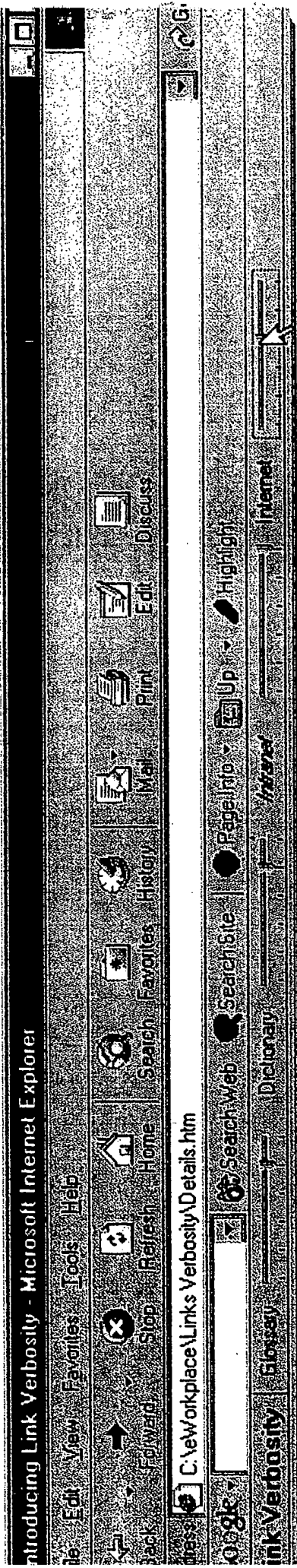
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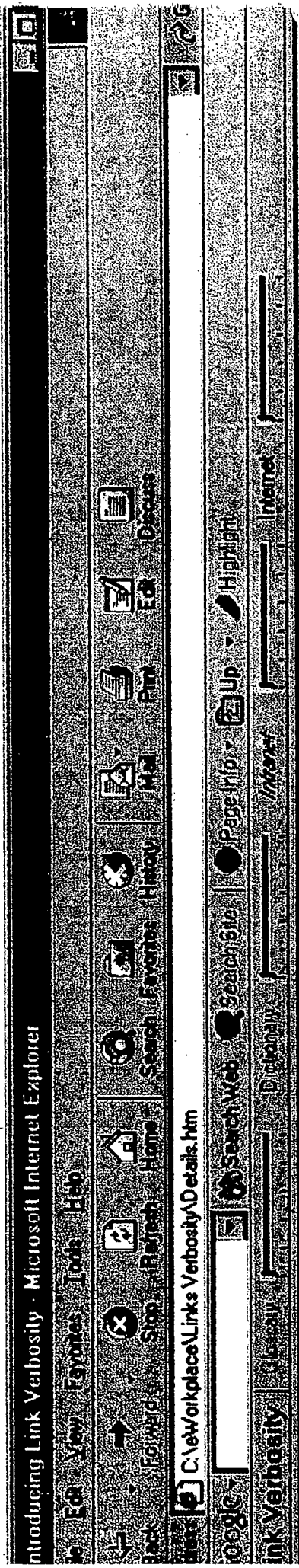
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<TITLE>Introducing Link Verbosity</TITLE>

<SCRIPT language=JavaScript>

function slider_moved(type, position) {
    verbosityChanged(type, position);
}

</SCRIPT>

</HEAD>
<BODY LANGUAGE=vbScript onload=loadIt()>
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<OBJECT id=PopupMenu
codeBase=http://msdn.microsoft.com/workshop/iemenu.ocx#Version=4,70,0,1086
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NAME="_ExtentY" VALUE="0"></OBJECT>

<script language="vbscript">

function loadIt()

    LinkHandler.loadLinks("http://localhost/Details.links")
    LinkHandler.passDocumentHandle(document)
    ' msgBox "this is loadIt Function"
    LinkHandler.SetPageVerbsities 0,0,0,0
End Function

function verbosityChanged(linkType, newVerbosity)
    LinkHandler.passDocumentHandle(document)
    select case linkType
        case "Glossary":
            LinkHandler.ChangeVerbosity 1, Cint(newVerbosity)
        case "Dictionary":
            LinkHandler.ChangeVerbosity 2,Cint(newVerbosity)
        case "Intranet":
            LinkHandler.ChangeVerbosity 3, Cint(newVerbosity)
        case Else:
            LinkHandler.ChangeVerbosity 4,cint(newVerbosity)
    End select
end function

Sub anchor_clicked(anchorID)
    dim s
    s = LinkHandler.getTarget(CStr(anchorID))
    if s <> "" then
        with PopupMenu
            .Clear
            .AddItem(s)
            .PopUp
        end with
    end if
end sub

</script>

```

<P><FONT size=5><span onclick=anchor\_clicked(this.id) id="a1">Glossaries</span> usually provide formal, and many times proprietary, definitions to specialized terms. To particular audiences (e.g. to IBMers) some of those terms - like <span onclick=anchor\_clicked(this.id) id="a2">BluePages</span> or <span onclick=anchor\_clicked(this.id) id="a3">IGS</span> - are more common

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## Details.links

#Types: Glossary;Dictionary;Intranet;Internet

#Anchor;Type;Verbosity;Target

a1;2;4;"Glossary - a collection of textual glosses or of specialized terms with their meanings"

a2;1;4;"BluePages - the direcotry of all IBM employees, their contact information and their position in the corpoarte ladder"

a2;3;3;"http://w3.ibm.com/bluepages"

a3;1;4;"IBM Global Services"

a3;3;3;"http://w3.ibm.com/Services"

a3;4;3;"http://www.ibm.com/Global Services"

a4;1;2;"Intellectual Capital Management"

a4;3;1;"http://w3.ibm.com/assetweb"

a5;1;1;"Haifa Research Lab"

a5;3;2;"http://w3.haifa.il.ibm.com"

a5;4;3;"http://www.haifa.il.ibm.com"

a6;2;1;"Support an argument - usually with facts"

a7;2;3;"assumpotions"

a8;2;4;"not genuine"

a9;2;5;"pass on to higher orders for their handling"

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```

<HTML>
<HEAD>
<META NAME="GENERATOR" Content="Microsoft Visual Studio 6.0">
<TITLE>Introducing Link Verbosity</TITLE>

<SCRIPT language=JavaScript>

function slider_moved(type, position) {
    verbosityChanged(type, position);
}
</SCRIPT>

</HEAD>
<BODY LANGUAGE=VBScript onload=loadIt()>
<OBJECT id=LinkHandler codeBase=c:\workspace\Linksv~1\linkHandlerProject.dll
classid=clsid:B5FA2FAB-209E-11D5-9D26-6275DF000000></OBJECT>
<OBJECT id=PopupMenu
codeBase=http://msdn.microsoft.com/workshop/ie/menu.ocx#Version=4,70,0,1086
classid=clsid:7823A620-9DD9-11CF-A662-00AA00C066D2><PARAM NAME="_ExtentX" VALUE="0"><PARAM
NAME="_ExtentY" VALUE="0"></OBJECT>

<script language="vbscript">

function loadIt()

    LinkHandler.loadLinks("http://localhost/Details.links")
    LinkHandler.passDocumentHandle(document)
    MsgBox "this is loadIt Function"
    LinkHandler.SetPageVerbsities 0,0,0,0
End Function

function verbosityChanged(linkType, newVerbosity)
    LinkHandler.passDocumentHandle(document)
    select case linkType
        case "Glossary":
            LinkHandler.ChangeVerbosity 1, Cint(newVerbosity)
        case "Dictionary":
            LinkHandler.ChangeVerbosity 2,Cint(newVerbosity)
        case "Intranet":
            LinkHandler.ChangeVerbosity 3, Cint(newVerbosity)
        case Else:
            LinkHandler.ChangeVerbosity 4,cint(newVerbosity)
    End select
end function

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    s = LinkHandler.getTarget(CStr(anchorID))
    if s <> "" then
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    end if
end sub

</script>

<P><FONT size=5><span onclick=anchor_clicked(this.id) id="a1">Glossaries</span> usually
provide formal, and many times
proprietary, definitions to specialized terms. To particular audiences (e.g. to
IBMers) some of those terms - like <span onclick=anchor_clicked(this.id)
id="a2">BluePages</span> or <span onclick=anchor_clicked(this.id) id="a3">IGS</span> - are
more common

```

#### Details.htm

and better known, while others - like

**Newcomers to IBM may need to consult the IBM Glossary for all those terms; others may need to see and the link only from some of the words to the glossary.**

It is easy to think of similar arguments for dictionaries. Authors may want to make sure that their message is understood, and provide dictionary entries, or translations, to some words or terms. While some are less known - e.g.

**It can be easily done by stating a different verbosity on each of the glossary links (Note: still not is XLink format)**

</BODY>  
</HTML>



## Details.links

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#Anchor;Type;Verbosity;Target

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